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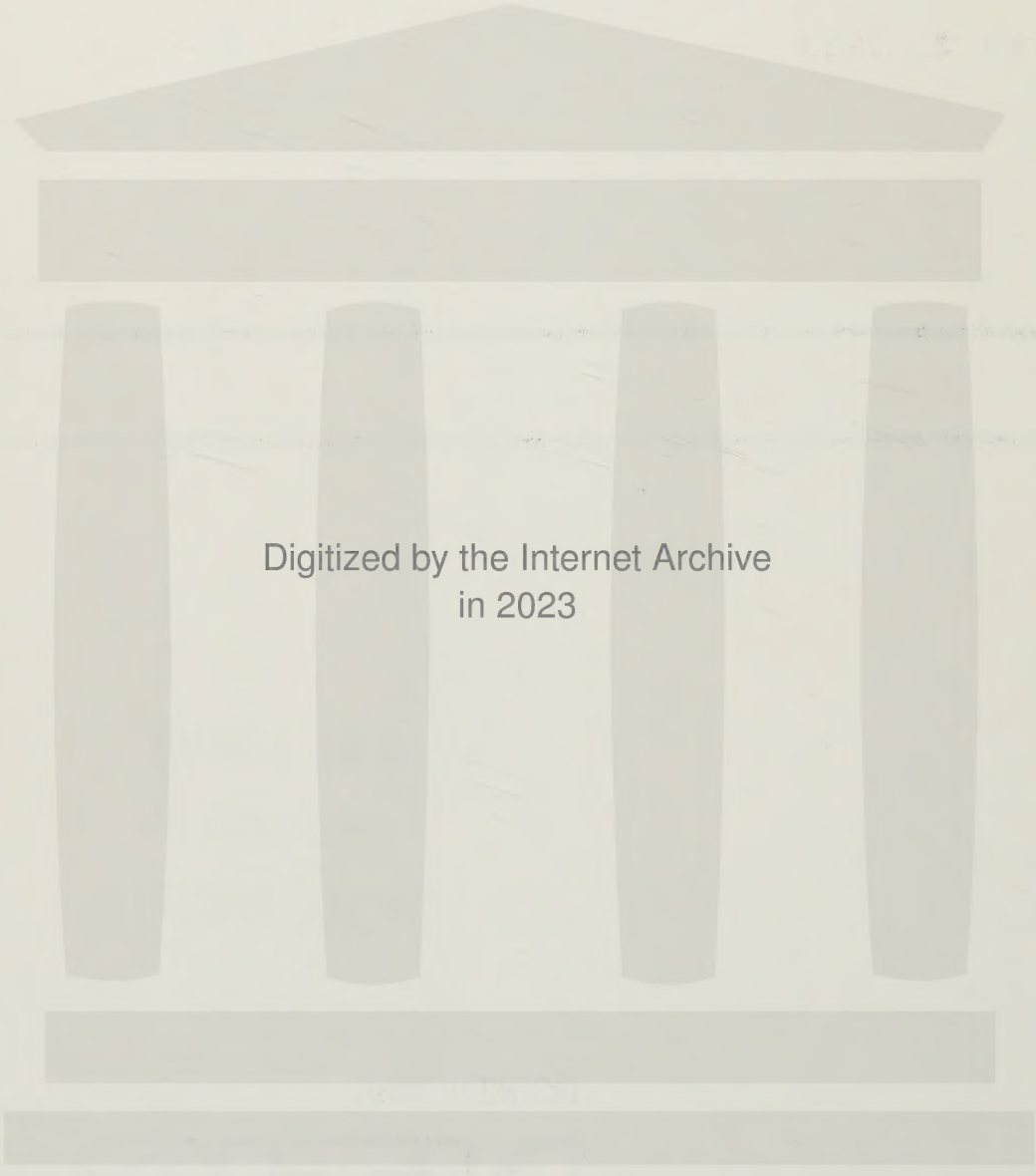

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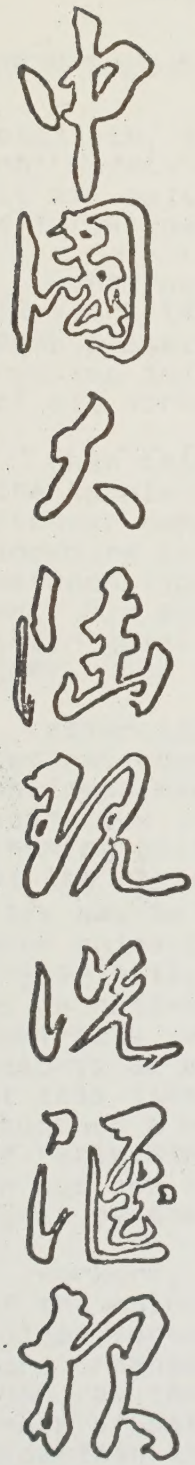

Current Background

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Series of Five NCNA Reports on
Tach'ing Oilfield

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12 Glorious Years

-- First of a series on Tach'ing Oilfield

(NCNA-English Taching, Jan. 2, 1973)

the taching oilfield, the biggest in china, impresses a visitor not merely by its scale, but even more by the fact that it was built by the chinese people relying on their own efforts under the guidance of mao tsetung thought.

construction began on may first, 1960. in the past 12 years taching has grown immensely, produced large quantities of petroleum, accumulated experience in running industrial enterprises and trained a large number of oil workers with revolutionized thinking.

when china was under the dark rule of imperialism and the kuomintang reactionaries, imperialist aggression and plunder hampered china's industrial growth, the petroleum industry being no exception. in the nearly half a century between 1904 and 1949, the year new china was founded, only six small oil- and gas-fields were discovered and their total petroleum output was no more than 3 million tons. old china was a dumping ground for foreign oil.

after liberation, under the brilliant leadership of the central committee of the communist party headed by chairman mao, the country quickened the pace of the petroleum industry. yet prior to the opening of the taching oilfield, home supply fell short of the needs of the rapidly growing national economy. china at that time had to import most of the oil it needed. when china faced temporary economic difficulties (1959-1961), imperialism and modern revisionism stirred up an anti-china wave. soviet revisionism tore up its contracts, withdrew its experts and restricted its oil exports as pressure to bring china under its baton. at this time, china's oil workers, technicians and cadres launched a big battle for oil by adhering to the principle of "maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts" set forth by chairman mao and the party central committee.

workers, staff members and commanders and fighters of of the chinese people's liberation army in tens of thousands joined forces on this vast grassland. their efforts were crowned with brilliant victories. on june 1, 1960, at the end of the first month of the battle, the first train of oil set off from taching. prospecting to ascertain the volume and area of its oil deposit was in the main completed in the second year, while in the third year a modern oilfield was completed. these achievements contributed to china's initial self-sufficiency in oil.

since then the oilfield has reported stable high output of crude oil. production has continued to rise during the great proletarian cultural revolution due to the increased consciousness of the workers and their family members in carrying out chairman mao's revolutionary line. crude oil output in 1971 was more than five times the 1963 figure. between 1960 and 1971, output went up 35.2 per cent on the average every year. output in the first eleven months of 1972 was 16.2 per cent more than the corresponding period of 1971.

the battle for opening the taching oilfield was waged under very difficult conditions. natural disasters had created temporary difficulties in china's national economy and investment and equipment were not adequate. the technical personnel taking part were young and inexperienced. three out of every four were new graduates averaging 23 years of age. even the older technicians had never had the experience in opening such a big oilfield. moreover, the tens of thousands of workers from many parts of the country were faced with the problems of housing and even daily necessities.

the taching oilfield party committee called on the workers to study chairman mao's "on practice" and "on contradiction". the workers said that although there were many problems, these were tiny compared with the urgent need of the state for petroleum. they would make every sacrifice in order to smash the blockade and sabotage by imperialism and revisionism, build up an independent economy and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat. they pooled their wisdom and worked out measures to overcome the temporary difficulties in their stride.

the revolutionary will and dogged fighting spirit inspired the people of taching to triumph over one difficulty after another, especially at the beginning. they built roads that crisscross the area and set up simple dwellings with materials to hand. oil workers and their family members formed farm production brigades to reclaim land. this helped build a new socialist oilfield which combines industry with agriculture and town with countryside, taking into account the interests of both production and daily life. an area covering well over 30 square kilometres was opened up for workers, technicians and cadres to carry out experiments in opening oilfield. taching's experience shows how china's oil industry can be built, according to the general line for socialist construction and the country's concrete conditions.

the road of taching is: take mao tsetung thought as the guidance, combine revolutionary zeal with a strict scientific approach, launch mass movements and work hard and self-reliantly to build socialist enterprises with greater, faster, better and more economical results. chairman mao issued the call "in industry, learn from

taching" in 1964 and taching has since been an example for industries throughout the country.

the oilfield has trained many workers and staff members with high political consciousness, deft skill and good work style. they are resolute in carrying out chairman mao's revolutionary line, put the interests of the party and the state in first place and dare to struggle against difficulties. mastering advanced techniques through practice, they are capable of solving problems in oil prospecting and extraction. they are dutiful and adhere to strictness in their work.

this contingent of workers nurtured by marxism-leninism-mao tsetung thought has made a signal contribution in developing china's oil industry. many who have left taching for other parts of the country to prospect and open new oilfields are carrying forward the glorious tradition of the taching oilfield.

Keeping to General Line

-- Second of a Series on Taching Oilfield

(NCNA-English Taching, Jan. 4, 1973)

the building of the taching oilfield -- from exploration to workers' welfare facilities -- exemplifies the party's general line, namely, "going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism."

high speed and high quality was the watchword of all those pioneering the oilfield. the pathbreakers were the drillers.

the 1205 drilling team led by wang chin-hsi came to the new oilfield in the spring of 1960. on their way to taching, they saw buses carrying large gas bags on top and tractors standing idle in the fields for lack of oil. this heightened their indignation against imperialism and modern revisionism which tried to bully china by imposing an oil blockade. seeing a vast sea of oil in their mind's eye, they felt their strength surge. wang chin-hsi said: "i simply want to knock open the earth with my fist to let the black oil gush out, and dump our backwardness in petroleum into the pacific."

the sixty-ton drilling machine arrived. but there was no hoisting gear. wang chin-hsi and other workers went into action and, by dint of physical effort, moved the whole derrick to the drilling site kilometres from the railway station. they got the machine in working order before the water pipeline was laid. nevertheless they began to dig. when the well water was used up, they fetched it from a distance. through five days and nights of strenuous labour, they completed drilling the first well. the leadership at a higher level awarded the drilling team the honoured title "iron drilling team" for their high sense of revolutionary responsibility and hard work and called on all the pioneering workers to learn from them. the call set the whole oilfield in motion, each group trying to overtake the other.

the 1202 drilling team led by ma teh-jen set a record by drilling a well in 66 hours. not long after, the team led by tuan hsing-chih broke the record with 61 hours 40 minutes.

with aid from the workers, research departments reformed the drill bit to make it more durable and efficient. after drilling a well, the workers had to dismantle the derrick and moved it to another place. this took a week. the workers used ten tractors to tow the derrick without dismantling it and in a few hours it was moved

and could start work again. in the first eight months of 1960, a number of prospecting and production wells were drilled. at the end of the year, hundreds of thousands of tons of oil were produced and large quantities of data accumulated.

this spurred the drilling workers to strive harder. in 1966, the two pace-setting teams, nos. 1202 and 1205, set a record with a total of 100,000 metres drilled in eleven months and five days, using old drilling rigs from the 1940's. this surpassed the record of 90,325 metres in twelve months set by a u.s. team and far outstripped the best soviet effort of 40,810 metres, accumulated by i.b. polyakovski's drilling team for the whole of 1965.

high speed and high quality continues to be their militant slogan.

when the 1268 drilling team discussed its plan at the beginning of 1971, the workers set their annual target at 110,000 metres, a tall order for a team set up only five years earlier. the workers and cadres of the team were determined to reach advanced world levels. they studied chairman mao's works hard and used dialectical materialism to guide them. maintaining a strict scientific approach, they studied cores and the drilling speed to become familiar with the geological formations in the course of work. the study showed that in their drilling area the structures were riddled with over one hundred breaks of different thicknesses, causing a lot of difficulties. they worked out a new drilling method and topped their original plan by drilling 111,000 metres. that made them the third team to beat the 100,000-metre annual mark.

it used to take nine days to sink a well in the early days of the oilfield. now, it takes only four. number 1205 chalked up an annual drilling record of 127,000 metres in 1971. not long ago, the team sank a well in 21 hours and 15 minutes with a single bit. the inclination of the wells in the early days was within six degrees of the true vertical. by 1963, the limit was within three degrees. the best wells have a deviation of only 0.2 metre at the bottom.

crude oil produced in taching has a high degree of paraffin wax and viscosity and a high solidification point. the problem was how to transport such crude oil to the storage points for shipment to other parts of china. china had not handled this kind of oil before. the oilfield party committee organized the engineers and workers to make a conscientious study of chairman mao's "on practice" as the basis for careful investigation and experiments.

crude oil in winter must be kept at a stable temperature for transportation. they had to decide on the correct temperature and ways to maintain it. was the available literature practical in their circumstances? an assistant

technician and a trainee decided to do spot checks. in order to arrive at the answer they sat in an oil tank car without heating equipment and covered over 10,000 kilometres when the temperature dropped to 30 degrees below zero, centigrade. they measured the temperature and wind velocity every hour. they took the temperature in the oil tank at every large booster station. this provided scientific data for designing a set of satisfactory heating equipment.

the oilfield was built according to the policy of practicing economy. simple, but quite comfortable flat-roofed houses were put up instead of high-standard housing. their slogan was "production first". this saved a lot of building materials and investment in the early days and helped speed up construction of the oil field.

the profits turned over to the state in the past eleven years were well over 7 times the investment. the workers keep the spirit of building the country with diligence and frugality. for example, drilling workers have organized recovery teams to collect discarded tools to be repaired.

Victory of Dialectical Materialism

-- Third of a series on Taching Oilfield

(NCNA-English Taching, Jan. 5, 1973)

the wells in taching, which went into operation in 1960, have maintained a natural flow at about the original pressure of the sub-surface strata and output has increased by a wide margin every year since then.

this is, the taching workers say, because of the study of chairman mao's "on practice" and "on contradiction". this has armed them with the dialectical materialist viewpoint in analysing and solving problems.

taching was the first large oilfield ever found in china. in the course of its development, there was a struggle between dialectical materialism and subjective idealism and between creativeness and foreign conventions around how to determine oil-bearing formations and the methods of working them. under the leadership of the oilfield party committee, workers, technicians and cadres have done systematic surveys and evolved techniques suited to the specific conditions.

the oilfield was opened at a time when the country urgently needed oil. but as a socialist country, china must protect the underground resources which belong to the people; it must not follow the predatory, imperialist ways of oil extraction which might produce quick results, but would do long-range damage to production. taking into consideration both present and future interests, the party committee set the principle of operation that would ensure high and stable output over the long run.

the party committee led workers and technicians in studying the history of more than 20 foreign oilfields, while summing up china's own experience. this led to the conclusion that the key measure was to inject water into the oil strata early so as to maintain the pressure and keep the oil flowing.

but early injection of water has unfavourable aspects. in some cases, the water may destroy the well.

the workers and technicians analysed taching's original underground pressure. a meeting was called by the party committee to discuss methods of early water injection. the workers, technicians and cadres taking part in the meeting were determined to follow chairman mao's teachings and do away with all fetishes and emancipate the mind. they decided to open a test area to find their way.

they succeeded in maintaining the pressure and output rose steadily. but water in fact did gush out too early

in some wells. the workers and technicians investigated and found that the quantity of water injected was not coordinated with the permeability of formations. when little water was pumped into a formation with limited permeability, it had little effect in increasing pressure. a large amount of water injected into a highly permeable formation moved fast and more oil flowed, but the percentage of water was sometimes as high as 100 per cent.

chairman mao teaches: "we must learn to look at problems all-sidedly, seeing the reverse as well as the obverse side of things. in given conditions, a bad thing can lead to good results and a good thing to bad results." the study of this teaching helped the workers and technicians see the favourable and unfavourable aspects of water, and the need to control the quantity injected.

after 1,018 experiments over a period of eight months, they worked out a device to regulate the amount of water injected into oil formations with different permeability.

but a new contradiction emerged. the pressure in some wells was erratic and output was unstable. they found the reason to be the uncontrolled quantity of oil extracted. some good formations yielded more oil than the water injected, causing the pressure to drop. if this continued, the wells would no longer benefit from early water injection. starting in 1965, they readjusted the oil output of each formation and achieved a balance between the quantity of oil extracted and that of water injected. the steady pressure resulted in high stable output.

one reason for the constant improvements in extraction was their clear understanding of the geological conditions based on investigations.

instead of the conventional ways of drawing up their plan according to a general view, which is obtained from propositions and average calculations based on a few sample wells, the young geological workers in taching developed their own methods.

the study of chairman mao's teachings on the dialectical materialist theory of knowledge showed them that book knowledge and calculations alone would not give them a correct understanding of the oilfield. they must make investigations and accumulate detailed data. hundreds of technicians went among the workers, living and working with them. in drilling any well, they would get 20 items of information and 72 figures. in order to determine the exact proportions of oil and water in oil strata under original conditions, a woman geologist and a dozen young technicians worked hard for two months and solved 101 difficulties before they

invented an efficient method for taking a core sample. this brought a recovery rate of from 95 to 100 per cent. they also worked out ways to obtain correct figures and data quickly.

within a few years they collected more than 400,000 facts and figures and tens of thousands of metres of cores for sample studies and worked out ten thousand kilometres of curves on graphs giving information on the situation underground. basing themselves on this material, they did half a million core sample analysis, 1.6 million analytical tests and 20 million comparisons of subsurface strata. this enabled them to map out a scientific exploration plan. they evolved a new theory for knowing oil-bearing formations.

in line with "practice, knowledge, again practice, and again knowledge", they have worked to constantly improve their information about oil-bearing formations. for instance, they drilled some wells on the basis of available data and then studied the wells to enrich the data before they decided which strata to be tapped first. the process was repeated on more wells. this enabled them to improve their exploration plan.

following chairman mao's teaching "the movement of change in the world of objective reality is never-ending and so is man's cognition of truth through practice", the workers of taching have over the past few years worked on transforming oil-bearing formations. they want not only to extract more oil from good formations, but find ways to get a higher rate of recovery for the poor ones.

New Type Socialist Oilfield

-- Fourth in a series on Taching Oilfield

(NCNA-English Taching, Jan. 6, 1973)

taching oilfield has been built to combine industry with agriculture and town with countryside. while oil workers manage towering oil derricks and rows of wells, members of their families work in the fields around. taching produces 25,000 tons of grain and 30,000 tons of vegetables every year, apart from supplying the state with a great quantity of oil.

the workers, staff members and their families live in more than 100 village-like residential centres scattered throughout the oilfield.

not far from the administration building is a village with well over 1,300 households and 5,500 members of workers' families. the village has production teams working 466 hectares of farmland.

the village is surrounded by poplars and its neat streets are flanked by one-storeyed clay and brick dwellings. there are markets, grain shops, bookstores, a department store, a post office and a bank and other facilities, including tailors, barbers and bath houses. a primary school and a nursery have enabled workers' wives to have the time to take part in collective productive labour, mostly in farm production. the village has a hospital with over 40 beds. there are also small workshops turning out edible oil, wines, soy sauce, beancurd and flour run by workers' family members with technical help from workers.

smaller villages about two kilometres off around bigger villages have similar facilities and all are linked by roads.

when they first arrived, the workers, technicians and cadres lived in tents which they pitched on the grassland near the work sites. the thought uppermost in their minds was to produce oil for the state as soon as possible. the oilfield party committee in the autumn of 1960 organized the workers and staff members to put up housing before winter. in a short time, large numbers of simple adobe houses were built. later, as more wives and family members arrived, the future layout of the oilfield buildings was discussed.

basing themselves on foreign conventions, some people proposed that a sizable city be built for the petroleum centre since it would have several hundred thousand people. their initial design called for putting up a "petroleum city" where the workers would live 30 kilometres from the

oilfield. the oilfield party committee and the workers voiced firm opposition. such a project, they pointed out, would require large state investment and ran counter to the principle of industry, thrift and plain living. furthermore, if the residential area was to be far from the oilfield, the workers had to spend much time on their way and their wives would have to stay at home and become mere consumers.

the oilfield party committee adopted a different plan in line with chairman mao's teaching "step by step, big enterprises like the wuhan iron and steel company can be built up as integrated complexes" and "to some extent, such big enterprises should engage in agriculture, trade, education and military training as well as industry." since the oil wells and factories were scattered and there were large tracts of open-land, the committee decided to build the workers' housing near the wells and factories. members of their families could farm. this method would benefit production, be convenient for the workers and lessen the gap between town and countryside.

under the leadership of the party organizations, the workers and their families used clay, turf and oil residue to build neat rows of adobe houses covering over one million square metres of floor space. eighty per cent of the building materials were local. the workers' housing, plus the oil exploitation research institute, the oilfield designing institute, the petroleum engineering institute and the welfare establishments, in all accounted for only nine per cent of the total investment in building the oilfield.

as production grew, the workers replaced the adobe houses with one-storeyed houses built of kiln and earthern bricks, made by the workers and their families.

most of the family members came from working people's families. they decided to reclaim land, grow crops and contribute their share.

fifty-year-old hsueh kuei-fang pioneered the efforts. she and four other housewives set out with spades and bedding, rigged up a tent in the wilderness and started reclaiming the land. their example fired the revolutionary enthusiasm of others who began farming and side-line production on a large scale.

the taching party committee helped them study chairman mao's works, explained the oilfield building plan to them and encouraged them in their efforts. nurseries, canteens, tailor teams and other services were set up for their convenience.

by 1965, more than 90 per cent of all the able-bodied members of workers' families had joined. two-thirds of them took part in farming, side-line production or service

trades; the others in road-building or subsidiary work necessary for the oilfield. they produced more than 20,000 tons of grain, 15,000 tons of vegetables and 125 tons of poultry, eggs and meat that same year.

the great proletarian cultural revolution has enhanced the political consciousness of the workers and their families, who have conscientiously studied works by marx, engels, lenin and stalin and chairman mao's works, criticized revisionism and made remarkable progress in oilfield development, agriculture and side-line production. they have reclaimed 20,000 hectares of land and set up more than 100 small factories, which use waste water, exhaust gas and residue discharged in the process of oil refining as well as other material to produce chemical fertilizer, wax, pharmaceuticals, soap, roofing felt, electric bulbs, screws and other goods.

the family members engaged in factory work, service trades, farming or as school teachers are all paid under a work-point system conforming to the principle "to each according to his work". the total income of a production team, after the payment of agricultural tax and setting aside necessary expenditures and public reserve and welfare funds, is distributed among the team members according to their work points.

nurtured by mao tsetung thought and tempered in the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment, members of workers' families have become an important force in the growth of the oilfield. imbued with a collective spirit, they are united as one, work hard and help one another. most of the leading cadres of the villages and other residential centres are from the workers' families. they are also represented on the revolutionary committees at all levels in the taching oilfield. some of them, who are party members, have been elected to party committees at various levels.

Builders of Taching

-- Fifth and last of a series on Taching Oilfield

(NCNA-English Taching, Jan. 7, 1973)

the taching oil workers are continuing the glorious tradition of hard struggle fostered by the chinese communist party under the leadership of chairman mao during the war years. they are building socialism in high spirits and are fulfilling the tasks entrusted them by the party and state.

soon after the plan for opening up the taching oilfield was endorsed in february, 1960, by the party central committee headed by chairman mao, the ministry of petroleum industry mobilized manpower and supplies from dozens of industrial and mining enterprises and colleges in all parts of the country. the people's liberation army sent commanders and fighters to help.

trainloads of supplies arrived from all parts of the country. as there were no warehouses, equipment piled up for kilometres along the railway. it was cold and there was no housing for the tens of thousands of people who converged on the wild prairie. undaunted, the taching builders overcame difficulties under the leadership of the oilfield party committee. they lived in tents and dugouts and even on the open ground. as vegetables were scarce, wild vegetables were eaten. the workers used candles and bonfires. the headquarters was housed in cattle sheds and the technicians had to work in movable houses. when it rained, people covered themselves with big plastic sheets because roofs leaked.

not long after the project began, the renegade liu shao-chi and company slandered it as a mess and tried to stop it. the oilfield party committee led the taching workers and staff members in debating whether the project should continue or not. a drilling team leader, wang chin-hsi, known as the "iron man" was a vanguard in fighting the wrong line. the taching workers said that their difficulties were temporary, but if china's shortage of oil were not solved, the imperialists and modern revisionists would take advantage of the problem and try to strangle the chinese people. the taching workers firmly continued with the project in revolutionary spirit because the debate had raised their class consciousness. many heroic workers emerged in this extremely difficult battle for oil. most outstanding was wang chin-hsi.

he was born in a poor peasant family in kansu province, northwest china. while still a child, he joined his blind father in begging. as a child of 8, wang chin-hsi began work as a cowherd for a landlord. at 15 he became

an apprentice in a capitalist petroleum company. despite his hard work, he could never make ends meet. the working class became master of the country with china's liberation. nurtured by the party, wang chin-hsi studied chairman mao's writings diligently and made great political progress. soon he was admitted into the communist party. his outstanding work earned him the title of national model worker.

as soon as the oil drive began, wang chin-hsi led the no. 1205 drilling team to taching. alighting from the train, they immediately went to the drilling site without taking a rest. wang chin-hsi stayed there several days and nights running to put up drilling machines. the team leader slept on a pile of drill pipes and the drill bit was his pillow. selfless efforts by the workers put taching's first top-quality well into operation in short order.

wang chin-hsi received a leg injury while putting up the derrick and he was hospitalized. at midnight, he stole back to the drilling site. leaning on crutches he directed the team in its work. during the drilling operation, there was imminent danger of a blow-out which could have buried the derrick. the usual method of preventing it was to pour in heavy spar, but that would have taken too long to bring to the site.

making a quick decision, wang chin-hsi ordered that eight bags of cement that were at hand be poured into a mortar pit. they had no mixer, so wang chin-hsi jumped into the pit, followed by two other members of the team. the men worked like trojans mixing the mortar, and they prevented a blow-out.

when he was helped out of the pit, wang chin-hsi could not stand. his legs were bruised and aching and his hands were blistered.

numerous other outstanding workers like wang chin-hsi came to the fore. each year some hundred units and 10,000 people were commended for their vital contributions in building taching.

communist party member hsueh kuo-pang was the leader of taching's first extraction team. he and his teammates sank makeshift oil storage pits in the frozen earth, because pipelines and metal tanks were not available at the time. holding a steam hose in his hand, he waded waist-deep in the freezing oil to melt it. the fluid was pumped into railway tank cars to be taken out.

engineering team leader chu hung-chang made careful check-ups to get the pipe line to work properly. when he found a leak, he wrapped his hand in a towel and helped the welder fix it, because no gloves were at hand. the sparks from the welding narrowly missed burning his hand.

this revolutionary spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death rose from the study of mao tsetung thought and the party's education.

before the project began, the leadership analyzed the battle for petroleum as a struggle against nature, a battle for production, in which the decisive factor is people and their outlook and class consciousness. it is a battle of politics and fighting morale. the oilfield party committee called on everybody to study "on practice" and "on contradiction" and other brilliant works by chairman mao. the workers have persisted in this study.

the party committee at the same time helped the workers keep abreast of the domestic and international situation and organized them to compare the old and new societies in terms of their experience. this enabled the workers to gain a deeper understanding of the political significance of their project in defeating the economic blockade imposed by imperialism and modern revisionism and in consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat.

many veteran workers recalled the exploitation and oppression they suffered in the old society. this deepened their conviction that had it not been for national independence and liberation and the socialist system, they would never have become masters of their destiny. they identified their work with the revolution and interests of the country, and consciously devoted their utmost efforts to the project.

with such proletarian consciousness, the workers were able to overcome many difficulties. a windstorm knocked down telephone wires one time and a shock repair crew was not on hand. workers mao hsiao-chung and hsiao chuan-fa rejoined the broken wire by holding the broken ends in their hands so that an urgent phone call could be put through. when an oil drum caught fire, maintenance team leader hsi hua-ting risked his life by climbing on top of it and using his cotton-padded jacket to extinguish the fire.

taching workers have tempered their revolutionary morale in the hard struggle. in the process, they have also developed a fine working style of serious and conscientious attitude toward revolutionary work, striving always to do the best. this style of work combines revolutionary spirit with scientific approach and shows how the workers act as masters of the country. it is an invisible strength which ensures good work in building and running the modern oilfield.

taching workers will never forget what happened on april 19, 1961. on that day, an oil well was closed down because it was listing to one side. although the workers could continue extracting oil from it, production

and the life span of the well would be affected. people regretted the closing since the workers, technicians and leading cadres had put in a lot of hard work and the state investment would be lost. the oilfield party committee was of the opinion that in building oilfields for the people, it assumes lifetime responsibility and every kind of work must meet strict standards. the party committee called a 10,000-strong rally and urged the workers to sum up the experience and lessons of the abandoned well. since then, high-quality wells have been opened one after another, and an attitude of responsibility has grown.

in taching, every oil extraction worker is responsible for several oil and water wells located far apart. he gathers 62 facts under 19 headings for each well every day. hundreds of thousands of facts are collected daily. leader of an oil extraction team hsin yu-ho has for years examined a 1,500-metre-long wire cable inch by inch before using it for dewaxing.

the taching builders have this attitude toward revolutionary work: honesty in thought, words and deeds at all times; high demands and a serious attitude toward work, a strong sense of organization and discipline; and maintaining the same standard of work day and night, in good weather or bad, when leaders are present or absent, whether the work is checked by others or not. this fine style of work shows the high responsibility of the workers as the masters of the country.

many veteran workers; technicians and leading cadres have gone from taching to new oilfields. at present, young people account for about 70 per cent of taching's workers. they carry on the revolutionary spirit of hard and conscientious work. the tailoring workshop is one of the outstanding units there. when it was founded by three demobilized armymen and five housewives 12 years ago, it was housed in a cow shed. the workshop has saved more than 400,000 metres of cloth and 400 tons of cotton at a value of more than 1,700,000 yuan for the state by washing and mending work clothes and shoes. but what is more important to the taching builders is the revolutionary spirit of the people.

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